



Newsletter: February 2008

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### **Reviews: Demoting Agent**

**TITLE:** Demoting the Agent

**SUBTITLE:** Passive, Middle and Other Voice Phenomena

**SERIES:** Linguistik Aktuell/Linguistics Today 96  
**PUBLISHER:** John Benjamins  
**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2007  
**EDITOR:** Lyngfelt, Benjamin; Solstad, Torgrim

**REVIEWER:** Amaya Mendikoetxea, Departamento de Filología Inglesa, Universidad Autónoma de Madrid

**Summary:**

Passives and related constructions involving 'agent demotion' (e.g. middles and antipassives) have been a core area of research in contemporary linguistics. These structures are typically analyzed in contrast with active constructions. The active-passive contrast raises interesting issues concerning the lexicon-syntax interface and the syntax-discourse interface. Consequently, different perspectives have been adopted in different theoretical frameworks. Formal linguists have focused mostly on issues at the lexicon-syntax interface: the contrast between active and passives (and related constructions) regarding their semantic representation (event structure, argument structure) and their syntactic realization. Functionalist approaches, on the other hand, have concentrated mostly on the expression of discourse participant prominence and distinctions to do with other aspects of information structure, as well as specifying the circumstances in which agents can be omitted. The aim of this volume is, as stated by the editors in the preface, to bring together different perspectives on passives and related constructions: different theoretical approaches, different languages and different voice-related phenomena.

This book contains 11 articles based on talks presented at the workshop 'Demoting the agent: Passive and other voice-related phenomena' held at the University of Oslo in November 2004, which are preceded by an introductory chapter by the editors of the volume and followed by a Language Index, a Name Index and a Subject Index.

The introductory chapter "Perspectives on demotion" by Torgrim Solstad and Benjamin Lyngfelt, editors of the volume, is devoted to the definition of agent demotion, which has been used in many different ways in the literature. In line with much recent research, the editors adopt a wider approach to agent demotion, including passivization but also other phenomena in the domain of what is commonly referred to as middle voice. A key concept in the analysis of agent demotion related constructions is transitivity in its broad sense (e.g. Hopper & Thompson 1980), which in turn involves notions such as action, telicity, volitionality and affectedness. They show that passive, and voice phenomena in general, belong to two different paradigms. In the 'pragmatic paradigm', passives are analyzed in relation to information structure, along with other constructions used to express (relative) prominence: topicalization, intonational patterns, clefts and so on. In the 'event-semantic' paradigm, passives are analyzed along with middles and other non-transitive constructions, in which agents are omitted. The tendency in the literature is to focus on either one or the other. The editors' belief is that one should take both perspectives into consideration for a better understanding of voice and related phenomena.

In "Semantic and syntactic patterns in Swedish passives", Elisabet Engdahl discusses the ways in which the two passive forms (the morphological passive with the suffix -s and the periphrastic passive with the copula *\_bli\_* 'become') are used in present-day written Swedish, in contrast with Danish and Norwegian. A quantitative analysis based on Laanemets (2004) reveals that the -s passive is the unmarked form: it is more frequent and has a wider distribution (syntactic contexts, types of verbs) than the *\_bli\_* passive, which is subject to additional restrictions (it is used when the subject of the passive clause has control over the situation described or may influence it). There is also a discussion on the extent to which a demoted agent is syntactically and/or semantically present. A corpus analysis reveals that in the vast majority of passive sentences the

agent remains unexpressed. A possible syntactic analysis of passive forms is given in the last section of the paper based on Engdahl (2001), within the context of Head-Driven Phrase Structure Grammar, and an alternative analysis in terms of Construction Grammar is outlined.

Andrey Filtchenko's paper "The Eastern Khanty locative-agent constructions: A functional discourse-pragmatic perspective" is concerned with the identification of certain grammatical resources with semantic-pragmatic properties associated with voice constructions in Eastern Khanty, one of the native languages of the indigenous hunter minorities of north-western Siberia. The author concentrates on the occurrence of agented passives and so-called "ergative" constructions with locative-marked agents in Eastern Khanty narratives. Both types of constructions are similar in that they are chosen to mark a temporary shift in the status of discourse participants - the parenthetical establishment of a secondary topic - expressed by the foregrounding of the non-agent referent and the backgrounding of the agent referent, which nevertheless maintains a high activation (topicality) status. The difference between both constructions has to do with the semantic properties of the proposition: the role of participants and the underlying transitivity of the event.

In "Agent back-grounding as a functional domain: Reflexivization and passivization in Czech and Russian", Mirjam Fried focuses on the functional properties of 'be' passives and the passive reflexive in Czech and Russian. The author argues that despite the formal similarities between the two structures, they occupy different parts of the functional space associated with the notion of agent back-grounding, i.e. they are different constructions in the sense of Construction Grammar. Though both constructions presuppose a backgrounded agent, the 'be' passive serves the purpose of highlighting the end result of an action. This is also true for the Russian reflexive, while the Czech reflexive has an existential, event-reporting function, which highlights the event, rather than its participants. This is motivated by the pragmatic function of the reflexive, which is a marker of unexpected (diminished) referential status of the agent. The relevant criteria for the distinction between the two constructions include animacy of the agent, the interpretation of the back-grounded agent (indefiniteness vs. genericity), inherent verb meaning, aspect and the potential for semantic extensions.

In "Invisible arguments: Effects of demotion in Estonian and Finnish", Elsi Kaiser and Virve-Anneli Vihman examine the properties of the implicit agent in two constructions: the 'impersonal construction' and the 'zeroperson construction'. The authors put forward what they refer to as the dissociation hypothesis, by which demotion may take place at the discourse level, at the semantic level and/or at the syntactic level, which accounts for the differences observed between Estonian and Finnish impersonal constructions, whereas in the zero person construction both languages appear to behave similarly: the implicit argument is present on the semantic and syntactic level, but fails to project a salient discourse entity.

The aim of Dalina Kallulli's "Argument demotion as feature suppression" is to define the role of the special morphology in constructions involving demotion, such as passives and anticausatives. Data from Albanian and English suggest that both structures are the result of the same operation: suppression of an event-type feature in the functional head 'v' in the syntax. This is based on the hypothesis that anticausatives have causative semantics. The analysis questions the validity of typical tests for the presence of implicit agents such as adverb-oriented adjectives, purpose clauses and by-phrases.

In "A comparative view of the requirement for adverbial modification in middles", Marika Lekakou addresses a well-known contrast regarding the presence of adverbs in middle constructions: middles in Germanic (e.g. English, Dutch and German) require adverbial modification, as opposed to middles in other languages such as Greek and French (see

Fagan 1992). The author argues that this is a syntactic or a structural restriction, rather than a semantic/ pragmatic one, against some existing proposals in the literature. In particular, the role of the adverb is to recover the implicit agent of middles through identification with the experiencer argument contributed by the adverb, in those languages where the latter is not syntactically represented. This, together with the dispositional semantics ascribed to middles, makes predictions about the set of appropriate middle modifiers.

Joan Maling's paper "From passive to active: Syntactic change in progress in Icelandic" reports on the results of a nationwide study designed to investigate the properties of a 'new' construction in Icelandic, which has surface properties of both the standard passive and the active voice and is widely accepted by adolescents, but regarded as ungrammatical in the standard use. The results of the survey support the hypothesis that what looks like a morphological passive is well along the way to being reanalyzed as a syntactically active construction with a phonologically null indefinite subject. Such reanalysis parallels a similar diachronic development that has occurred independently in both Polish *-no/to* constructions and Irish autonomous impersonals. A key factor in understanding why this change is happening in Icelandic but not in other Germanic languages is that even in the standard language passive morphology is associated with a human agent reading.

Anneliese Pitz's "The relation between information structure, syntactic structure and passive" investigates the occurrence of passive constructions in translations from German into Norwegian and vice versa, with data drawn from the German-Norwegian subcorpus of the Oslo Multilingual Corpus. The study shows that change of voice is to a large extent determined by information structure: adhering to the theme-rheme sequence of the source sentence, but its use constitutes an essential structural device to avoid interpretation problems and deviant structures.

Eva-Maria Remberger's "Syntax and semantics of the deontic WANT-passive in Italo-Romance" discusses several constructions in Romance varieties (e.g. Calabrian and Sardinian) that have the verb 'want' as an auxiliary, with special reference to the passive construction. She provides a minimalist syntactic analysis in which the implicit argument of passive constructions is both semantically and syntactically present, as the element PRO in the specifier of the Passive Pr-head, which can either be arbitrary or controlled by a prepositional adjunct. The semantic analysis is concerned with the semantic path from volitional modality to deontic modality, as a process of grammaticalization.

In "Agentivity and the virtual reflexive construction" Nola M. Stephens argues that virtual reflexives (e.g. 'This problem solves ITSELF') constitute an independent construction, independently from middles and other related constructions. A lexical semantic analysis of the verbs in virtual reflexives indicates that they involve a volitional agent and, like middles, signify that a property of the patient contributes to the agent's actions. However, unlike middles, virtual reflexives obtain this interpretation via a "metaphorical device" by which agentivity is partially transferred to the patient. This accounts for some differences between middles and virtual reflexives regarding the class of verbs which may appear in these constructions.

Thomas Stroik's paper "Arguments in middles" contributes to the current debate in the formal literature as to whether middle formation is a lexical process or a syntactic process. In previous work, the author has defended a syntactic approach, parallel to passive formation (see Stroik 1992, 1999), as opposed to pre-syntactic analyses, in which a "middle verb" is detransitivized in the lexicon (notably Fagan 1992 and Ackema and Schoorlemmer 1995, 2003). Here, he discusses two additional issues, which are best accounted for under a syntactic approach: (i) the optional presence of a *\_for\_*-PP middle in English and (ii) the mandatory presence of a reflexive pronoun in German.

Under this account, middles involve both demotion of the external argument and promotion of the internal argument. Towards the end of the paper, Stroik attempts to show there is a connection between several interdependent properties of middles: the presence of reflexives, the event responsibility property assigned to the promoted object, the promotion of the logical object, the demotion of the external argument and the absence of a vP in middles. The analysis, though highly speculative seems promising because it offers a way to explain several interdependent properties of middles.

### **Evaluation:**

All the articles in this volume make a significant contribution to the ongoing discussion on voice and voice-related phenomena. The book provides an overview of the relevant data in a variety of languages in which middle and other voice-related constructions have received considerable attention (mostly Germanic languages such as Swedish, Norwegian, Icelandic, English and German, but also other languages such as Polish, Czech, Russian, Greek etc.), as well as offering new data from other languages (e.g. Eastern Khanty and Italo-Romance varieties) and/or from constructions which have figured less prominently within the general phenomenon of agent demotion (e.g. Remberger's 'want'-passive in Italo-Romance varieties or Stephens' virtual reflexives in English).

The volume brings together different theoretical perspectives, with different research questions and methodologies. This is for the most part enriching, but can create some confusion, as authors differ even when giving definitions of what constitutes a passive or a middle construction, ranging from analyses in which voice phenomena are analyzed along an active-passive continuum (e.g. Flitchenko's paper, in line with Shibatani 1985 and Givón 2001) to those in which constructions involving agent demotion are structurally defined (e.g. in Kallulli's, Remberger's and Stroik's papers based on classical analyses of passivization in generative grammar such as Baker, Johnson and Roberts 1989 and more recent accounts of transitivity within the Minimalist Program such as Bowers 2002). Authors also vary in how carefully they define the phenomena under study. I found Flitchenko's paper particularly difficult to follow: the definitions used are not always clear and the examples from Eastern Khanty are often difficult to interpret. On the whole, most authors take care to be precise in their definitions and examples are well chosen (see, for instance, Kaiser and Vihman's comprehensive definition of agent demotion).

Notions such as transitivity, agentivity, telicity, volitionality, and prominence are present throughout the volume. There are also recurrent themes, such as the interpretive bias towards a human interpretation of the subject in 'impersonal' agent-demotion constructions, the suitability of standard agentivity tests such as agent-oriented adverbs and by-phrases, the issue of adverbial modifications in middles, and so on. This provides unity to the volume and, though the overall picture is a generally coherent one, perhaps the editors could have made more of an effort in bringing all these issues together by, for instance, providing more guidance for the readers in the introductory chapter and by making more use of cross-referencing. Unusually for a volume of this type, the editors do not provide in their introductory chapter a state-of-the art overview of research into voice, nor do they summarize the contents of the papers included in the volume (though there are frequent references to the articles contained in it). This, in itself, is a good decision, due to the enormity of the task at hand, but more of an attempt could have been made to highlight the central issues covered by the different authors and emphasize what the different analyses have in common and in what they differ.

In spite of this, and the varying degree of technicality of the different papers, the book reads well and will be of interest to linguists from different theoretical frameworks, who can choose to read each paper individually or as a contribution to the volume as a whole. Reading this volume, one gets an idea of the vast literature on the topic covering a wide

range of approaches (syntactic, semantic, morphological, pragmatic, cognitive) and the wealth of (often conflicting) terminology devised to analyze passives, middles and related constructions. This only adds to the challenge of trying to uncover the nature of the different aspects involved in voice-related phenomena. As M. Fried says in the introduction to her paper "capturing the essence of passive-like patterns or agent demotion in their various formal and functional manifestations is not a trivial task even within a single language" (p. 83).

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Stroik, Thomas. (1999) Middles and reflexivity. *\_Linguistic Inquiry\_* 30, 119-131.

**About the reviewer:**

Amaya Mendikoetxea is a lecturer in English Syntax in the Department of English Philology at the Universidad Autónoma de Madrid (Spain). Her research interests include, among others, aspects of the lexicon-syntax interface in Romance and Germanic languages (passivization, impersonal construction, middles, unaccusatives, etc.).

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**Books: The Emergence of Pidgin and Creole Languages**

**TITLE:** The Emergence of Pidgin and Creole Languages  
**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008  
**PUBLISHER:** Oxford University Press, <http://www.oup.com/us>  
**AUTHOR:** Jeff Siegel

**Book URL:** <http://www.oup.com/uk/catalogue/?ci=9780199216673>

**HARDBACK:** ISBN: 9780199216666  
**Pages:** 336  
**Price:** U.K.: £65.00

**PAPERBACK:** ISBN: 9780199216673  
**Pages:** 336  
**Price:** U.K.: £24.99

**Abstract:**

This book provides explanations for the emergence of contact languages, especially pidgins and creoles. It assesses the current state of research and examines aspects of current theories and approaches that have excited much controversy and debate. The book answers questions such as: How valid is the notion of a pidgin-creole-postcreole life cycle? Why are many features of pidgins and creoles simple in formal terms compared to other languages? And what is the origin of the grammatical innovations in expanded pidgins and creoles - linguistic universals, conventional language change, the influence of features of languages in the contact environment, or a mix of two or more factors? In addressing these issues, the author looks at research on processes of second language acquisition and use, including simplification, overgeneralization, and language transfer. He shows how these processes can account for many of the characteristics of contact languages, and proposes linguistic and sociolinguistic constraints on their application in language contact. His analysis is supported with detailed examples and case studies from Pidgin Fijian, Melanesian Pidgin, Hawai'i Creole, New Caledonian Tayo and Australian Kriol, which he uses as well to assess the merits of competing theories of language genesis. Professor Siegel also considers his research's wider implications for linguistic theory.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Language Acquisition and Sociolinguistics

**Written In:** English(eng)

**MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

Cambridge University Press: <http://us.cambridge.org>

Georgetown University Press: <http://www.press.georgetown.edu>

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## **Books: The Phonological Enterprise**

**TITLE:** The Phonological Enterprise

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008

**PUBLISHER:** Oxford University Press, <http://www.oup.com/us>

**AUTHOR:** Mark Hale and Charles Reiss

**Book URL:** <http://www.oup.com/uk/catalogue/?ci=9780199533978>

**HARDBACK:** ISBN: 9780199533961

**Pages:** 304

**Price:** U.K.: £65.00

**PAPERBACK:** ISBN: 9780199533978

**Pages:** 304

**Price:** U.K.: £22.99

### **Abstract:**

Re-examines foundational issues in phonology, linguistics, and cognitive science. Develops a coherent picture of the study of phonology and its relationship to other disciplines. Written with wit and in a clear and pedagogic style.

This book scrutinizes recent work in phonological theory from the perspective of Chomskyan generative linguistics and argues that progress in the field depends on taking seriously the idea that phonology is best studied as a mental computational system derived from an innate base, phonological Universal Grammar. Two simple problems of phonological analysis provide a frame for a variety of topics throughout the book. The competence-performance distinction and markedness theory are both addressed in some detail, especially with reference to phonological acquisition. Several aspects of Optimality Theory, including the use of Output-Output Correspondence, functionalist argumentation and dependence on typological justification are critiqued. The authors draw on their expertise in historical linguistics to argue that diachronic evidence is often mis-used to bolster phonological arguments, and they present a vision of the proper use of such evidence. Issues of general interest for cognitive scientists, such as whether categories are discrete and whether mental computation is probabilistic are also addressed. The book ends with concrete proposals to guide future phonological research.

The breadth and depth of the discussion, ranging from details of current analyses to the philosophical underpinnings of linguistic science, is presented in a direct style with as little recourse to technical language as possible.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Linguistic Theories and Phonology

**Written In:** English(eng)

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#### **Obituary: Dr Eloise Jelinek**

Eloise Jelinek, professor emerita of Linguistics at the University of Arizona, died in Tucson, Arizona on December 21st, 2007, after a long illness.

She was born in Dallas, Texas on February 10, 1924. Her life-long passion for language began during her childhood in Texas where she became fluent in Spanish. Her passion for linguistics was nurtured at the University of Michigan where she completed both a BA and MA in Anthropology and Linguistics.

Because of health concerns for her son, Tom, she, and her husband, Arthur Jelinek, moved to Tucson in 1967. In the middle of the 70's she was able to continue graduate studies in linguistics at the newly formed Linguistics Department at the University of Arizona. She received her doctorate in 1981 under the direction of Adrian Akmajian. Her dissertation title was "On defining Categories: AUX and Predicate in Egyptian Arabic." Her knowledge of Arabic (and also Hebrew) was acquired while doing fieldwork on Egyptian Arabic during her time at The University of Michigan.

Following her doctorate, she served on the faculty at The University of Arizona from 1981 to 1992. She taught and spoke extensively around the world, from Santa Cruz to Prague. She served on committees and organized workshops for the Linguistic Society of America, for the Society for the Study of Indigenous Languages of the Americas, and for the American Anthropological Association. She received research grants from the National Science Foundation, the Jacobs Fund, the Lindley Foundation, the Wenner-Gren Foundation, the American Philosophical, Charles University, and the University of Arizona. Following her official "retirement" in 1992, her activities seemingly only increased, as she organized several workshops, continued to work on national committees, co-edited three volumes of collected papers, and, of course, continued to publish her original research.

Eloise was all that a scientist who studies human language should be: endlessly fascinated by the complexities of language, constantly seeking to formulate the explanatory principles that underlie that complexity. From her dissertation onward, her research represented an optimal marriage between original ideas and original field data, an example to theoretical linguists everywhere. She was especially instrumental in demonstrating the importance of data from endangered and less-studied languages to generative linguistics, among them the Straits Salish languages Samish and Lummi, as well as Navajo, Choctaw, and Yaqui.

Her great insight into the human language faculty was founded on her remarkable ability to grasp the underlying structures of such typologically diverse languages. Her work advanced in fundamental ways the understanding of linguistic variation and its relationship to linguistic universals.

One striking thing about Eloise's research is that her later work was always an expansion and deepening of her earlier work. She originally was part of a research team consisting of Adrian Akmajian, Susan Steele, and Thomas Wasow. The focus of the research of this team was the category AUX and its role in the syntax of the world's languages. The AUX was shown to typically have as constituents subject (and often object) person marking, tense, aspect, and modality.

Eloise's Pronominal Argument (PA) Hypothesis (Jelinek 1984) grew directly out of her research on the AUX category. She proposed that a major typological distinction among languages such that some languages obligatorily satisfy their argument positions with pronominals (Pronominal Argument Languages) and other languages satisfy their argument positions with nominal constructions (e.g., nouns) (Nominal Argument Languages). What is important is the set of syntactic consequences that she showed follow once a language is described as a PA language. Her proposal has been the foundation of theoretical treatments of nonconfigurational, "head marking" languages in the literature since it first appeared.

Throughout her career she was most intrigued by phenomena at the syntax/semantics interface. Quantification in PA languages, the relationship of discourse structure to syntactic structure, and thethetic/categorical predication distinction were central foci of her theoretical work. Especially indicative of her creativity is her analysis of

morphological reduplication in Salish as a type of quantification.

She was also all that a humane scientist should be personally. She was deeply committed to the communities of speakers who shared their languages with her. She shared Ken Hale's vision of native-speaker linguists describing and analyzing their own languages, and worked extensively to recruit minority students to the linguistics program at Arizona, particularly speakers of endangered languages. She supervised Dr. Mary Willie's doctoral dissertation on Navajo, and also Dr. Fernando Escalante's doctoral dissertation, the first Ph.D. on the grammar of the Yaqui language written by a Yaqui speaker. She also collaborated with the Pascua Yaqui tribe to produce a grammar workbook, and provided training in grammatical analysis to future language teachers in several workshops organized in the late 1990s.

She communicated the excitement of linguistic analysis and the beauty of grammatical structure to all of those with whom she worked. Those of us lucky enough to have known her will always also remember her sense of humor and her infallible kindness. With her death we have lost a great linguist, a steadfast friend, and wonderful human being.

Heidi Harley and Dick Demers

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## **Books: A Beginner's Guide to Gender and Language: Jule**

**TITLE:** A Beginner's Guide to Gender and Language

**SERIES TITLE:** MM Textbooks

**PUBLISHER:** Multilingual Matters, <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/>

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008

**AUTHOR:** Allyson Jule

**Book URL:** <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/display.asp?isb=9781847690555>

**HARDBACK:** ISBN: 9781857690562

**Pages:** 120

**Price:** U.S.: \$99.95 & U.K.: £49.95

**PAPERBACK:** ISBN: 9781857690555

**Pages:** 120

**Price:** U.K.: £12.95 & U.S.: \$24.95

### **Abstract:**

A Beginner's Guide to Language and Gender offers a broad and accessible introduction to the study of gender and language use for those new to the subject. The book introduces the theoretical and practical perspectives, including relevant frameworks necessary to understand ways in which language interacts with gender/sex in various settings, including: in media, in schools, in places of business, in places of worship, and at home.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Sociolinguistics

**Written In:** English(eng)

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### **New website: Linguistics & Language Sciences Web Page**

The Linguistics & Language Sciences Web Page for our section of the American Association for the Advancement of Science (AAAS) is now up and running, thanks to the help of many people. Check them out! Go to <http://www.aaas.org/aboutaaas/organization/sections/ling.shtml>, or if you forget, just Google AAAS and enter Linguistics in the search query box that will come up on the left side of the page, and follow the obvious links.

Student memberships are only \$75, SCIENCE is included, and you can get an on-line subscription to SCIENCE if you start by becoming a member online. It's the one of the

best ways to keep up with major developments in related sciences, and with the news that other folks are reading about linguistics.

Also, AAAS is meeting in Boston this year, Feb 14-18; you can still register if you want to go. We'll be posting a list of symposia of interest to linguists shortly.

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## **Colloquia: Applied Linguistics Association of Australia**

**FULL TITLE:** Applied Linguistics Association of Australia

**SHORT TITLE:** ALAA

**DATE:** 04 July 2008 to 06 July 2008

**LOCATION:** Sydney, NSW, Australia

**CONTACT PERSON:** Ahmar Mahboob

**MEETING EMAIL:** [alaa2008@usyd.edu.au](mailto:alaa2008@usyd.edu.au)

**WEB SITE:**

<http://escholarship.library.usyd.edu.au/conferences/index.php/LingFest2008/ALAA>

**Call Deadline:** 01 April 2008

### **DESCRIPTION:**

Critical Dimensions in Applied Linguistics

The origins of Applied Linguistics were in the application of linguistic understandings to a wide range of contexts and issues. In the past decades the field has moved beyond relating language to social contexts to a dynamic approach to language addressing issues such as difference, access and disparity. It has become a more open field of interest in language involving an increasingly interactive approach between social and political contexts, language and research approaches.

The rapid worldwide increase in migration and reactions to it, the expansion of media and technology, political changes at international and local levels are both challenges and opportunities for research in applied linguistics. At the same time constraints such as market economy-driven research funding and greater central control of research agendas have limited the ability of the field to respond.

The theme of this year's conference 'Critical Dimension in Applied Linguistics' reflects the recent work in Applied Linguistics that examines the socio-cultural, economic, and political dimensions of language and language use.

**Visit the ALAA Homepage at:** <http://www.latrobe.edu.au/alaa/>

### **Plenary Speakers:**

- Celia Kitzinger, University of York, U.K.,

([http://www.york.ac.uk/depts/soci/s\\_kitz.html](http://www.york.ac.uk/depts/soci/s_kitz.html))

- Ryuko Kubota, UNC, Chapel Hill, North Carolina,

(<http://www.unc.edu/~rkubota/englishpage.html>)

- James Martin, University of Sydney, Australia,

(<http://www.arts.usyd.edu.au/departs/linguistics/staff/jmartin.shtml>)

- Alastair Pennycook, University of Technology Sydney, Australia,

([http://www.education.uts.edu.au/ostaff/staff/alastair\\_pennycook.html](http://www.education.uts.edu.au/ostaff/staff/alastair_pennycook.html))

### **Also Featuring (with Australian Linguistics Society):**

- Jen Hay, University of Canterbury, New Zealand (Jointly with ALS),

(<http://www.ling.canterbury.ac.nz/jen/>)

### **Call for Papers**

Authors are invited to submit abstracts for colloquia, papers, poster presentations.

- Colloquia (abstract max of 250 words): Colloquia will be 120 minutes in length. Their internal structure is up to their organizers, but sufficient time for discussion is encouraged.
- Papers (abstract max of 250 words): Papers will be 40 minutes in length, with 30 minutes for presentation, 10 minutes for questions/discussion.
- Poster presentations (abstract max of 250 words): A poster outlines a study in a stimulating way. It is not just the summary of a conference paper put on the wall. Posters should be inviting and provide comprehensive information about the project. Poster authors will be requested to present their work to an interactive audience at allocated times.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Applied Linguistics; General Linguistics

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## **Workshop: Collaboration: SALTMIL Workshop**

**FULL TITLE:** Collaboration: SALTMIL Workshop

**SHORT TITLE:** COLLAB

**DATE:** 27-May-2008 - 27-May-2008

**LOCATION:** Marrakech, Morocco

**CONTACT PERSON:** Briony Williams

**MEETING EMAIL:** [b.williams@bangor.ac.uk](mailto:b.williams@bangor.ac.uk)

**WEB SITE:** <http://ixa2.si.ehu.es/saltmil/en/activities/lrec2008/lrec-2008-workshop-cfp.html>

**Call Deadline:** 29 February 2008

### **DESCRIPTION:**

'Collaboration: Interoperability Between People in the Creation of Language Resources for Less-Resourced Languages'

LREC 2008 Pre-conference Workshop

Marrakech, Morocco: afternoon of Tuesday 27th May 2008

Organised by the SALTMIL Special Interest Group of ISCA

**SALTMIL:** <http://ixa2.si.ehu.es/saltmil/>

**LREC 2008:** <http://www.lrec-conf.org/lrec2008/>

### **Second Call for Papers**

Deadline for Submissions: 29 February 2008

<http://ixa2.si.ehu.es/saltmil/en/activities/lrec2008/lrec-2008-workshop-cfp.html>

### **Paper Submission:**

<http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=saltmil2008>

Papers are invited for the above half-day workshop, in the format outlined below. Most submitted papers will be presented in poster form, though some authors may be invited to present in lecture format.

### **Context and Focus**

The minority or "less resourced" languages of the world are under increasing pressure from the major languages (especially English), and many of them lack full political

recognition. Some minority languages have been well researched linguistically, but most have not, and the majority do not yet possess basic speech and language resources which would enable the commercial development of products. This lack of language products may accelerate the decline of those languages that are already struggling to survive. To break this vicious circle, it is important to encourage the development of basic language resources as a first step.

In recent years, linguists across the world have realised the need to document endangered languages immediately, and to publish the raw data. This raw data can be transformed automatically (or with the help of volunteers) into resources for basic speech and language technology. It thus seems necessary to extend the scope of recent workshops on speech and language technology beyond technological questions of interoperability between digital resources: the focus will be on the human aspect of creating and disseminating language resources for the benefit of endangered and non-endangered less-resourced languages.

### **Topics**

The theme of "collaboration" centres on issues involved in collaborating with:

- Trained researchers.
- Non-specialist workers (paid or volunteers) from the speaker community.
- The wider speaker community.
- Officials, funding bodies, and others.

### **Hence there will be a corresponding need for the following:**

- With trained researchers: Methods and tools for facilitating collaborative working at a distance.
- With non-specialist workers: Methods and tools for training new workers for specific tasks, and laying the foundations for continuation of these skills among native speakers.
- With the wider speaker community: Methods of gaining acceptance and wider publicity for the work, and of increasing the take-up rates after completion of the work.
- With others: Methods of presenting the work in non-specialist terms, and of facilitating its progress.

### **Topics may include, but are not limited to:**

- Bringing together people with very different backgrounds.
- How to organize volunteer work (some endangered languages have active volunteers).
- How to train non-specialist volunteers in elicitation methods.
- Working with the speaker community: strengthening acceptance of ICT and language resources among the speaker community.
- Working collaboratively to build speech and text corpora with few existing language resources and no specialist expertise.
- Web-based creation of linguistic resources, including web 2.0.
- The development of digital tools to facilitate collaboration between people.
- Licensing issues; open source, proprietary software.
- Re-use of existing data; interoperability between tools and data.
- Language resources compatible with limited computing power environments (old machines, the \$100 handheld device, etc.)
- General speech and language resources for minority languages, with particular emphasis on software tools that have been found useful.

### **Important Dates:**

29 February 2008: Deadline for submission

17 March 2008: Notification

31 March 2008: Final version

27 May 2008: Workshop

**Organisers:**

- Briony Williams: Language Technologies Unit, Bangor University, Wales, UK
- Mikel Forcada: Departament de Llenguatges i Sistemes Informàtics, Universitat d'Alacant, Spain
- Kepa Sarasola: Dept. of Computer Languages, University of the Basque Country

**Programme Committee:**

- Briony Williams: Bangor University, Wales, UK
- Mikel Forcada: Universitat d'Alacant, Spain
- Kepa Sarasola: University of the Basque Country
- Atelach Alemu Argaw: Stockholm University, Sweden
- Julie Berndsen, University College Dublin, Ireland
- Shannon Bischoff, Universidad de Puerto Rico, Puerto Rico
- Lori Levin, Carnegie-Mellon University, USA
- Climent Nadeu, Universitat Politècnica de Catalunya, Spain
- Juan Antonio Pérez-Ortiz, Universitat d'Alacant, Spain
- Bojan Petek, University of Ljubljana, Slovenia
- Oliver Streiter, National University of Kaohsiung, Taiwan

**Submission Information:**

We expect short papers of max 3500 words (about 4-6 pages) describing research addressing one of the above topics, to be submitted as PDF documents by uploading to the following URL:

**<http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=saltmil2008>**

The final papers should not have more than 6 pages, adhering to the stylesheet that will be adopted for the LREC Proceedings (to be announced later on the Conference web site).

Linguistic Field(s): Anthropological Linguistics; Computational Linguistics; General Linguistics; Language Documentation

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**Summer School 2008: Translation Research**

**Date and Venue:** 16-27 June 2008, Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies at the University of Manchester, UK (see <http://www.ilc.manchester.ac.uk/ctis/>).

**Note:** TRSS 2008 will be immediately followed by a postgraduate conference (Translation Frames: Gateways and Gatekeeping); see below.

The TRANSLATION RESEARCH SUMMER SCHOOL (TRSS), a joint initiative of three British universities, organizes an annual two-week course offering intensive research training in translation and intercultural studies for prospective researchers in the field.

The units collaborating in the Summer School are the Centre for Translation and

Intercultural Studies at the University of Manchester, the Centre for Intercultural Studies at University College London (UCL), and the Translation Studies Graduate Programme, School of Literatures, Languages and Cultures, University of Edinburgh

#### 2008 Teaching Staff

Mona Baker (University of Manchester)  
Kathryn Batchelor (University of Nottingham)  
Morven Beaton (University of Manchester)  
Siobhan Brownlie (University of Manchester)  
Sameh Fekry Hanna (University of Salford)  
Sue-Ann Harding (University of Manchester)  
Theo Hermans (University College London)  
Maeve Olohan (University of Manchester)  
Luis Perez Gonzalez (University of Manchester)  
Loredana Polezzi (University of Warwick)  
Sebnem Susam-Sarajeva (University of Edinburgh)  
Rebecca Tipton (University of Salford)  
Marion Winters (University of Edinburgh)

For Detailed Syllabus, see

<http://www.researchschool.org/index.php?module=content&task=view&id=21>

#### **Specialist Module for 2008: Translation, Migration, Diaspora**

Numerous acts of translation and interpreting are embedded in and define experiences of exile, (forced) migration, travel and mobility. This module will explore facets of the interdependence between the experience of physical dislocation and acts of translation and interpreting in the context of a postcolonial, globalised world characterised by heightened anxieties and growing political mobilisation.

**Invited Speaker:** Paul Bandia (Concordia University, Montreal; author of Translation as Reparation: Writing and Translation in Postcolonial Africa)

The Summer School is open to suitably qualified students from across the world. Candidates should normally hold the degree of Master of Arts or equivalent in a relevant subject (typically a humanities subject involving cross-cultural studies), should be proficient in English and should either have started or be actively considering research in translation and/or intercultural studies.

**Contact Details:** Lukasz Kaczmarek [lukasz.kaczmarek@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk](mailto:lukasz.kaczmarek@postgrad.manchester.ac.uk)

**Registration:** 975 GBP for sponsored students, 680 GBP for self-funded students

Two scholarships available: see

<http://www.researchschool.org/index.php?module=content&task=view&id=52>

**Application deadline:** 21 March 2008

For more details consult the Translation Research Summer School website at <http://www.researchschool.org/>

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## **Postgraduate Conference: Translation Frames: Gateways and Gatekeeping**

The University of Manchester, Centre for Translation and Intercultural Studies is pleased to announce its First International CTIS Postgraduate Conference:

Translation Frames: Gateways and Gatekeeping

### **Keynote Speakers**

Dr. Moira Inghilleri (University College London)  
Professor Michael Cronin (Dublin City University)

**Date and Venue:** 30 June – 1 July 2008, Hulme Hall, University of Manchester

### **CALL FOR PAPERS**

However translation is defined or understood, whether in Eurocentric and modern Arabic ideas of 'transferring across', or in terms such as the Hindi *anuvad* (speaking after, following) and *rupantar* (change in form), the Igbo *tapia* and *kowa* (to break up and tell or narrate differently) or the Chinese *fanyi* (turning over and interpreting/exchanging), [1] the notion of some kind of transformative act seems to be unavoidable. One way of conceptualising these transformative acts is to employ the notion of framing, which has been defined as 'strategic moves that are consciously initiated in order to present...a particular position within a certain perspective.' [2] Yet, framing is a broad concept used in many disciplines, and might also be thought of in other ways.

The aim of this conference is to investigate the idea of transformative frames and practices by exploring what translation as gatekeeping (a term taken from media studies) prevents, restrains, and constrains, and alternatively (or simultaneously), what translation as a gateway, allows, permits, and conveys. It also aims to consider the practical, social, and geo-political implications of these 'gates'. Papers may address, but are not restricted to, the following topics:

- Translation and interpretation as re-narration or re-presentation;
- Translation and interpretation and the negotiation of power/resistance;
- Translation, migration, and imagined communities;
- Translation and multimodal analysis;
- Translation, globalisation, and technology;
- Translators and interpreters as agents;
- News and media translation, and the roles of translators, interpreters, and fixers;
- Translating and interpreting conflict and situations of violence; and
- Translating social policy and social-political texts.

We welcome contributions from doctoral candidates, MA students, and established researchers working in translation, interpreting and audio visual translation. We are

particularly interested in work that draws on innovative theoretical approaches to translation and/or investigates distinctive case studies that can enrich and extend translation theory. We are keen to create a lively, discursive, and progressive forum with sessions and keynote speakers particularly addressed to postgraduate students and questions of research. Speakers will have the opportunity to submit their papers for selection and publication in a special conference edition of the CTIS Occasional Papers.

Please send 400 word abstracts for individual 20 minute paper presentations and a brief (100-150 words) paragraph of your biographical information by March 31 2008 to the conference organising committee at [ctis\\_postgrad\\_conference@yahoo.co.uk](mailto:ctis_postgrad_conference@yahoo.co.uk). Successful proposals will be notified of their acceptance by April 30 2008.

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## Summer School: Functional Linguistics

Summer School in Functional Linguistics, University of Copenhagen

**DATE:** 19 August 2008 to 22 August 2008

**LOCATION:** University of Copenhagen, Denmark

**CONTACT:** Jens Nørgaard-Sørensen

**CONTACT EMAIL:** [gradeast@hum.ku.dk](mailto:gradeast@hum.ku.dk)

**MEETING URL:** [http://english.gradeast.dk/courses/fl\\_summerschool/](http://english.gradeast.dk/courses/fl_summerschool/)

### Description:

The Summer School provides an introduction to prevailing theories within functional linguistics and will illustrate ways in which the theories may be applied on the one hand to linguistic categories (i.e. providing intra-linguistic explanations) and on the other to the way language interacts with context (i.e. providing extra-linguistic explanations). The frameworks to be presented and discussed are Systemic Functional Linguistics (SFL), Functional Discourse Grammar (FDG) and Danish Functional Linguistics (DFL). The participating research students will also have the opportunity to discuss their own projects in relation to functional paradigms.

### Organizer:

Graduate School East in Linguistics

Application for participation: Before June 1st, 2008. Please fill out the registration form on the website. Participants should include a one page abstract of their project. Information about admittance will be sent out to applicants shortly after June 15th, 2008.

### Course fee

Participation is free of charge. GradEast will pay for board and lodging. However, participants will have to cover their travel costs.

### Course certificate

A course certificate will be issued upon completion of the course, based on 80% participation.

### Frameworks and applications will be presented by:

James Martin (SFL)  
Sue Hood (SFL)  
Carl Bache (SFL)  
Kees Hengeveld (FDG)  
Jan Rijkhoff (FDG)  
Peter Harder (DFL)  
Jens Nørgård-Sørensen (DFL)  
Frederick Newmeyer (comparing functional and formal approaches)

**Linguistic Field(s):** Linguistic Theories

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## **Position offered: Lecturer/Senior Lecturer**

### **UNIVERSITY OF WITWATERSRAND: SCHOOL OF LITERATURE AND LANGUAGE STUDIES LECTURER/SENIOR LECTURER IN LINGUISTICS M/G047**

The Department of Linguistics seeks to appoint a Lecturer/Senior Lecturer in Linguistics, with a specialization in sociolinguistics. Applicants for the senior lectureship should have experience in university-level teaching and a good publication record. Interest in an additional area of linguistics, for example psycholinguistics, Black South African English, historical linguistics or the use of corpora in linguistics, would be an advantage.

**Closing Date:** 7 March 2008

**Qualifications:** Applicants should have a PhD in Linguistics.

**Duties:** Teaching and supervision at undergraduate and post graduate levels. Research in areas of teaching and interest. Administration within the Department and at School level.

**Experience:** At least three years of teaching at tertiary level for Senior Lecturer and not less than one year for Lecturer. Evidence of research publications.

Remuneration will be consonant with qualifications and relevant experience.

The appointee must be able to take up the post from **1 July 2008**.

**Enquiries:** Dr A. van der Spuy, Linguistics, (011) 717-4185  
([andrew.vanderspuy@wits.ac.za](mailto:andrew.vanderspuy@wits.ac.za))

**To apply:** submit a letter of motivation, detailed CV with the names, addresses and contact numbers of 3 referees (including email addresses) to: Mrs Pumla Ngcobo, Human Resources Officer, Faculty of Humanities, University of the Witwatersrand, Private Bag 3, Wits 2050, Gauteng, South Africa, [pumla.ngcobo@wits.ac.za](mailto:pumla.ngcobo@wits.ac.za).

The University reserves the right to verify qualifications and credit standing.

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## **Conference: British Association for Applied Linguistics (BAAL)**

**Full Title:** British Association for Applied Linguistics

**Short Title:** BAAL 2008

**DATE:** 11 September 2008 to 13 September 2008

**LOCATION:** Swansea University, Swansea, Wales, United Kingdom

**CONTACT PERSON:** Tess Fitzpatrick, [t.fitzpatrick@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:t.fitzpatrick@swansea.ac.uk)

**WEB SITE:** <http://www.baal.org.uk/confs.htm>

**Call Deadline:** 31 March 2008

**Meeting Description:** 41st Annual Meeting of the British Association for Applied Linguistics

**Theme:** 'Taking the Measure of Applied Linguistics'

BAAL 2008 will be held in Wales' second city of Swansea, situated on the South Wales coast. The University campus is located in coastal parkland, between the five-mile-long beach of Swansea bay and 100 acres of parks and gardens. In 2005, Swansea University received the Times Higher Education Supplement Award for the UK's Best Student Experience. The Department of Applied Linguistics at Swansea is a dynamic research centre, and has had a long association with BAAL. The vibrant city centre, with its new cultural and culinary waterfront developments, is within reach of the campus by foot or by bus. The nearest airport, outside Cardiff, is served by regular flights with low-cost airlines from cities across Britain and Europe, including Belfast, Glasgow, Newcastle, Edinburgh, Cork, and Dublin.

### **Plenary Speakers:**

Charles Alderson, Lancaster University

Ben Rampton, King's College London

Alison Wray, Cardiff University

### **Conference Organisers:**

Tess Fitzpatrick: [t.fitzpatrick@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:t.fitzpatrick@swansea.ac.uk)

Jim Milton: [j.l.milton@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:j.l.milton@swansea.ac.uk)

Nanele Lewis (accommodation & organisation): [conferences@swansea.ac.uk](mailto:conferences@swansea.ac.uk)

Department of Applied Linguistics

Tel: +44 1792 602540

Fax: +44 1792 602545

**BAAL conferences webpage:** <http://www.baal.org.uk/confs.htm>

### **Call for Papers**

Abstracts are welcome in any area of Applied Linguistics that fits within the theme of the conference - "Taking the Measure of Applied Linguistics". This theme is deliberately intended to be inclusive and might include papers which take stock of Applied Linguistics generally, consider attempts to quantify language and language learning which is one important element of Applied Linguistics, or make the case that non-quantified language descriptions can be equally valid and useful in linguistic applications.

**Deadline for receipt of Abstracts:** 31 March 2008

Please send one electronic copy to [BAAL08@ling.ed.ac.uk](mailto:BAAL08@ling.ed.ac.uk) in an email entitled "BAAL08\_oneinitialsurname", e.g. "BAAL08\_dsmith", in an attachment also entitled "BAAL08\_oneinitialsurname". An e-mail confirmation of receipt of abstract will be sent within a week.

If you prefer to submit your abstract by post, please send four copies of your abstract to: Erik Schlee, Linguistics and English Language, 40 George Square, University of Edinburgh, Edinburgh EH8 9LL, Scotland, UK.

**Label and format your abstract like this:**

- Title in bold
- Name, affiliation, address, telephone number and email (if sending paper copies, put this information on only one copy)
- Text 300 words maximum (including the title and references)
- Single-spaced
- Justified
- Times New Roman 12

Indicate the type of abstract that you are submitting: individual presentation, poster, SIG presentation, or colloquium.

- 20-minute individual presentation for the parallel sessions.
- Poster. We strongly encourage the submission of abstracts for posters. We aim to raise the profile of posters at our conference since we value them as equal to other forms of presentation and we believe that they tend to receive more feedback than individual papers. All posters will be listed in the book of abstracts and there will be a dedicated area and time slot for discussion of poster presentations. There will also be a prize for best poster displayed at the conference. The winner will receive £ 50 and a book.
- Presentation for a Special Interest Group (SIG) track. If you believe your paper is of interest to a SIG track, please clearly annotate it: 'of interest to X SIG'. The SIG may then wish to include your paper in a track at the annual meeting. BAAL has eight Special Interest Groups. They are UK Linguistic Ethnography Forum, Corpus Linguistics, Psycholinguistics, Multimodality, Language Learning and Teaching, Language in Africa, Gender and Language, Assessment
- Proposed colloquium paper (this is submitted along with the other papers in the colloquium, and the title of the colloquium on the conference theme).

**Guidelines:**

1. Individual papers have 25 minutes: 20 for the presentation, 5 for questions.
2. SIG tracks and colloquia have half a day and a minimum of four papers.
3. Colloquia proposers should plan their half day in four slots, in step with the individual paper slots. If they wish to have a larger number of papers, they may fit two papers into what would normally be a single slot. Colloquia papers should cohere. The order of the papers should not be changed after acceptance.
4. All abstracts will be reviewed anonymously.
5. Each individual paper, colloquium and poster is rated by three reviewers: one Executive Committee and two Local Organising Committee members.
6. SIG track papers are also rated by three reviewers: two from the SIG and one Executive Committee member.

**Indicate whether you want a scholarship:**

Send your scholarship application along with your abstract by 31 March 2008. Forms are available here: [http://www.baal.org.uk/join\\_funding.htm](http://www.baal.org.uk/join_funding.htm).

BAAL offers ten UK student scholarships to postgraduate students based in the UK. The scholarships cover registration and accommodation. BAAL also offers two International scholarships, one of which is the Chris Brumfit International Scholarship. These are worth £1,000, which goes towards registration, accommodation, meals and travel.

**Linguist Field(s):** Applied Linguistics

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## **Conference: Conceptual Structure, Discourse and Language**

**FULL TITLE:** Conceptual Structure, Discourse and Language

**SHORT TITLE:** CSDL

**DATE:** 18 October 2008 to 20 October 2008

**LOCATION:** Cleveland, OH, USA

**CONTACT PERSON:** Fey Parrill

**MEETING EMAIL:** [csdl9@case.edu](mailto:csdl9@case.edu)

**WEB SITE:** <http://artsci.case.edu/csdl9>

**Call Deadline:** 15 May 2008

### **Meeting Description:**

The Ninth Conference on Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language will be held at Case Western Reserve University, 18-20 October 2008.

### **Call for Papers**

The theme of CSDL 9 is "Meaning, Form, and Body". The focus is on two central, related research areas in the study of language: (1) the integration of form and meaning, and (2) language and the human body. These topics intersect naturally, as in the study of grammatical constructions, of conceptual integration, and of gesture.

### **Plenary Speakers:**

Seana Coulson: Department of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego

Gilles Fauconnier: Department of Cognitive Science, UC San Diego

Adele Goldberg: Program in Linguistics, Princeton University

Michael Spivey: Department of Psychology, Cornell University

Eve Sweetser: Department of Linguistics, UC Berkeley

### **Abstract Submission:**

We welcome abstracts for papers in the fields of cognitive linguistics, functional linguistics, discourse, corpus linguistics, and speech and language processing, especially among scholars exploring the interface between language and cognition.

The deadline for proposals to the general session is May 15, 2008. Please submit abstracts of no longer than 500 words, in English, via our online submission system, at <http://artsci.case.edu/csdl9>. Acceptance notices will be sent by email by June 30, 2008.

All papers will be scheduled for 20 minutes, with an additional 5 minutes for questions and discussion.

Fey Parrill, Vera Tobin, and Mark Turner  
Conceptual Structure, Discourse, and Language 9, <http://artsci.case.edu/csdl9>

**Linguistic Field(s):** General Linguistics

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## **Final call for papers: International Workshop on Constraints and Language Processing (CSLP2008)**

5th International Workshop on Constraints and Language Processing (CSLP2008),  
<http://control.ruc.dk/CSLP2008/>  
11 to 15 August 2008.

Organized as part of the European Summer School on Logic, Language and Information  
ESSLLI 2008 (<http://www.ilic.uva.nl/ESSLLI2008/>), 4 - 15 August, 2008 in Hamburg,  
Germany.

### **Invited Speakers:**

Helen de Hoop, <http://baserv.uci.kun.nl/~hdehoop/>  
G rard Huet, <http://pauillac.inria.fr/~huet/> (INRIA, France) (tentative)

### **Workshop Organizers:**

Philippe Blache (Provence University, France)  
Henning Christiansen (Roskilde University, Denmark), co-chair [henning@ruc.dk](mailto:henning@ruc.dk)  
Veronica Dahl (Simon Fraser University, Canada)  
J rgen Villadsen (Technical University of Denmark), co-chair [jv@imm.dtu.dk](mailto:jv@imm.dtu.dk)

### **Workshop Purpose:**

The CSLP 2008 workshop addresses the question of constraints and language processing from an interdisciplinary perspective. Constraints are widely used in linguistics, computer science, and psychology. How they are used, however, varies widely according to the research domain: natural language processing, knowledge representation, cognitive modelling, problem solving mechanisms, etc. The purpose is to pursue a paradigm, unifying the different approaches into a common framework capable of explaining how constraints play a role in representing, processing and acquiring linguistic information, and this from a formal, technical, and cognitive perspective.

### **Workshop Topics:**

The topics include, but are not limited to, constraint-based linguistic theories, constraints in human language comprehension and production, context modelling and discourse interpretation, acquisition of constraints, probabilistic constraint-based reasoning, constraint satisfaction technologies and constraint logic programming.

### **Submission Details:**

Authors are invited to submit a full paper of up to 12 pages in PDF format.  
The font size must be at least 10 pt when printed on A4 paper.  
It is recommended that the LaTeX "article" style is used.  
Previously published papers cannot be accepted.  
The submissions will be reviewed by the program committee.  
The accepted papers will appear in the workshop proceedings published by ESSLLI.  
One author for each accepted paper must attend the workshop in order to present the paper.

Proceedings are printed as a technical report (with ISSN no.) and made available online. Selected and extended papers will be included in a volume of Studies in Computational Intelligence published by Springer.

Please use the CSLP 2008 submission page handled by the EasyChair conference system: <http://www.easychair.org/conferences/?conf=CSLP2008>

**Workshop Format:**

The workshop is part of ESSLLI and is open to all ESSLLI participants. It will consist of five 90-minute sessions held over five consecutive days in the second week of ESSLLI.

**Workshop Programme Committee:**

Philippe Blache (Provence University, France)  
Henning Christiansen (Roskilde University, Denmark), co-chair  
Veronica Dahl (Simon Fraser University, Canada)  
Denys Duchier (University of Orléans, France)  
John Gallagher (Roskilde University, Denmark)  
Claire Gardent (CNRS/LORIA, Nancy, France)  
Barbara Hemforth (Provence University, France)  
M. Dolores Jiménez-López (Tarragona, Spain)  
Lars Konieczny (Freiburg University, Germany)  
Shalom Lappin (King's College, UK)  
Detmar Meurers (Ohio State University, USA)  
Véronique Moriceau (LIMSI-CNRS, Orsay, France)  
Gerald Penn (University of Toronto, Canada)  
Kiril Simov (Bulgarian Academy of Sciences, Bulgaria)  
Jørgen Villadsen (Technical University of Denmark), co-chair  
Eric Villemonte de la Clergerie (INRIA, France)

**Important Dates:**

Submission Deadline: March 8, 2008  
Notification: April 21, 2008  
Preliminary Program: April 24, 2008  
ESSLLI Early Registration: May 1, 2008  
Final Papers for Proceedings: May 17, 2008  
Final Program: June 21, 2008  
Workshop Dates: August 11-15, 2008

**Local Arrangements:**

All workshop participants including the presenters will be required to register for ESSLLI. The registration fee for authors presenting a paper will correspond to the early student/workshop speaker registration fee. There will be no reimbursement for travel costs and accommodation.

**Further Information:**

About the workshop: <http://control.ruc.dk/CSLP2008/>  
About ESSLLI: <http://www.illc.uva.nl/ESSLLI2008/>

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**Workshop: Wordfast workshop hosted by SATI**

There are still some places available on the Wordfast workshop being hosted by SATI at the University of Johannesburg on Friday, 7 March 2008. If you would like to attend please email me directly at [bboland@telkomsa.net](mailto:bboland@telkomsa.net) and I will send you the registration form. You will need to have registered by Thursday, 21 February so don't delay.

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## **Position offered: Language Practitioner**

**DEPARTMENT:** OFFICE OF THE EXECUTIVE MAYOR AND CITY MANAGER (TSWANE)

**DIVISION:** Integrated Communication, Marketing and Information Services Unit: Language Services.

**POSITION:** LANGUAGE PRACTITIONER

**Scale:** R 116 748 – 189 948 per annum.

**Appointment requirements:** An appropriate tertiary, career-related qualification and experience (three year Degree or National Diploma).

**Job specific requirements:** National Diploma or B degree in Languages (English/Afrikaans).

**Recommendation:** Relevant practical experience as a translator and editor in English and Afrikaans; General knowledge of the National Language Policy Framework; Good communication skills (written and verbal); Computer literacy is essential.

**Primary function:** To translate and edit municipal documents from Afrikaans into English or vice versa and to develop terminology in both languages.

**SAP Ref no:** S61021047

**Enquiries:** Ms L Netshitomboni (012 358 7454)

Our policy is to provide equal employment opportunities to all qualified persons without regard to race, religious belief, age, national origin, marital status, physical disabilities, HIV status, gender, social origin, culture, political opinion or conscience and sexual orientation. It is our intention to promote representivity in the City of Tshwane through the filling of these positions. Candidates whose transfer/promotion/appointment will promote representivity will therefore receive preference.

The appointment letter will indicate that the appointee waives the rights applicable to his/her previous service contract. The appointee will thus in no circumstances be entitled to benefits coupled to his/her previous post.

- Salary will be based on the appointment requirements as put out in the interim Grading Scheme of Tshwane.
- The advertised salary scale and or remuneration package will be applicable, without any exception.
- Please attach certified copies of all RELEVANT qualifications (Gr. 12, ID, tertiary diploma/degree, driver's license, trade diploma etc.).

- If the applicant fails to submit the required documentation during or prior to the interviews, such application may be disregarded.
- Please attach a separate CV for EACH position that you apply for.
- No late applications will be accepted.
- Please indicate whether you are permanent, part-time, temporary or a contract employee.

If you do not receive correspondence from our office within 21 days of the closing date, please consider your application unsuccessful.

Please hand in your CV, clearly indicating for which position you are applying for (job title and number of position in this Job Forum), AS WELL AS YOUR PAY NUMBER, to:

One-Stop Centre  
Human Resource Division  
City of Tshwane  
1st Floor  
Sanlam Plaza West-Building  
(Between Andries and Van der Walt Streets)  
271 Schoeman Street

**Or post to:**

Acting Executive Director: Strategic Human Resources  
Mr Keorapetse Tumagole  
P.O. Box 440  
Pretoria  
0001

Applications must be handed in at the above-mentioned office before or on the closing date. No electronic/faxed applications will be accepted.

**CLOSING DATE:** 22 February 2008 at 12:00

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## **Books: Introduction to English Linguistics**

**TITLE:** Introduction to English Linguistics

**SUBTITLE:** UTB basics

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008

**PUBLISHER:** Narr Francke Attempto Verlag GmbH + Co. KG, <http://www.narr.de/>

**AUTHOR:** Markus Bieswanger

**AUTHOR:** Annette Becker

**Book URL:** [http://www.narr.de/artikel\\_3581.ahtml](http://www.narr.de/artikel_3581.ahtml)

**PAPERBACK:** ISBN: 9783825227524

**Pages:** 229

**Price:** €14.90

**Abstract:**

Eine praxisorientierte Einführung in die zentralen Arbeitsbereiche der englischen Sprachwissenschaft. Das Buch besticht durch leicht verständliche

Erläuterungen, zahlreiche Beispiele, Abbildungen und Übungen mit Lösungen. Dadurch eignet es sich hervorragend als Grundlage für Einführungskurse aller Studiengänge, einschließlich der neuen Bachelor-Studiengänge, sowie zu Selbststudium, Wiederholung und Prüfungsvorbereitung.

**Linguistic Field(s):** General Linguistics

**Subject Language(s):** English(eng)

**Written In:** English(eng)

**MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

Brill: <http://www.brill.nl>

Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd: <http://www.continuumbooks.com>

Edinburgh University Press: <http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/>

Georgetown University Press: <http://www.press.georgetown.edu>

Hodder Arnold: <http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk>

John Benjamins: <http://www.benjamins.com/>

Lincom GmbH: <http://www.lincom.eu>

MIT Press: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/>

Mouton de Gruyter: <http://www.mouton-publishers.com>

Multilingual Matters: <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/>

Oxford University Press: <http://www.oup.com/us>

Palgrave Macmillan: <http://www.palgrave.com>

Rodopi: <http://www.rodopi.nl/>

Springer: <http://www.springer.com>

**OTHER SUPPORTING PUBLISHERS**

Cascadilla Press: <http://www.cascadilla.com/>

International Pragmatics Assoc.: <http://www.ipra.be>

Linguistic Association of Finland: <http://www.ling.helsinki.fi/sky/>

SIL International: <http://www.ethnologue.com/bookstore.asp>

St. Jerome Publishing Ltd: <http://www.stjerome.co.uk>

Utrecht institute of Linguistics: <http://www-uilots.let.uu.nl/>

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## **Books: Psycholinguistics/Applied Linguistics**

**TITLE:** Clinical Linguistics

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008

**PUBLISHER:** Edinburgh University Press, <http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/>

**AUTHOR:** Louise Cummings

**Book URL:** [http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/edition\\_details.aspx?id=12842](http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/edition_details.aspx?id=12842)

**HARDBACK:** ISBN: 9780748620760

**Pages:** 528

**Price:** £75.00

**PAPERBACK:** ISBN: 9780748620777

**Pages:** 528

**Price:** £24.99

### **Abstract:**

'Clinical Linguistics by Louise Cummings is a monumental undertaking. Cummings covers the discipline, from child language and speech disorders to failed communication in adulthood. Further, she covers each of the disorders comprehensively, from its biology and its medical features to its epidemiology; from assessment to treatment. And it is all done with a sound and disciplined scholarship. This almost encyclopedic text is even-handed and fair, focusing on the disorders and the individuals who have them, rather than on professional opinions concerning effective treatment. It is truly breathtaking, in scope and in consistency of purpose. I really can't think of anything like it.'

-Audrey L. Holland, Regents' Professor Emerita, University of Arizona.

The Royal College of Speech and Language Therapists estimates that 2.5 million people in the UK have a communication disorder. Of this number, some 800,000 people have a disorder that is so severe that it is hard for anyone outside their immediate families to understand them. In Clinical Linguistics, Louise Cummings examines the various developmental and acquired communication disorders that constitute these large and growing figures. In chapters that are dedicated to the discussion of individual communication disorders, Cummings argues that no treatment of this area can reasonably neglect an examination of the prevalence and causes of communication disorders. The assessment and treatment of these disorders by speech and language therapists are discussed at length. This book contains up-to-date research into communication disorders and describes the various technological innovations that are integral to the work of speech and language therapists. Clinical Linguistics is appropriate reading for students, practitioners and researchers in speech-language pathology and related clinical and academic disciplines. It contains the following chapters: The Scope of Clinical Linguistics; Disorders of the Pre- and Perinatal Period; Disorders of Cognitive Development; Disorders of Speech and Language Development; Acquired Communication and Swallowing Disorders; Disorders of Fluency; Disorders of Voice.

Clinical Linguistics is available in North America from Columbia University Press.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Applied Linguistics & Psycholinguistics

**Written In:** English(eng)

**MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

Brill: <http://www.brill.nl>

Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd: <http://www.continuumbooks.com>

Edinburgh University Press: <http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/>

Georgetown University Press: <http://www.press.georgetown.edu>

Hodder Arnold: <http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk>

John Benjamins: <http://www.benjamins.com/>

Lincom GmbH: <http://www.lincom.eu>

MIT Press: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/>

Mouton de Gruyter: <http://www.mouton-publishers.com>

Multilingual Matters: <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/>

Narr Francke Attempto Verlag GmbH + Co. KG, <http://www.narr.de/>

Oxford University Press: <http://www.oup.com/us>

Palgrave Macmillan: <http://www.palgrave.com>

Rodopi: <http://www.rodopi.nl/>

Springer: <http://www.springer.com>

#### **OTHER SUPPORTING PUBLISHERS**

Cascadilla Press: <http://www.cascadilla.com/>

International Pragmatics Assoc.: <http://www.ipra.be>

Linguistic Association of Finland: <http://www.ling.helsinki.fi/sky/>

Netherlands Graduate School of Linguistics / Landelijke - LOT,  
<http://www.lotpublications.nl/>

SIL International: <http://www.ethnologue.com/bookstore.asp>

St. Jerome Publishing Ltd: <http://www.stjerome.co.uk>

Utrecht institute of Linguistics: <http://www-uilots.let.uu.nl/>

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**Symposium: 2nd International Symposium of Linguists**

**DATE:** 09 October 2008 to 11 October 2008  
**LOCATION:** Tbilisi, Georgia  
**CONTACT:** Mariam Manjgaladze  
**CONTACT EMAIL:** [mmanjgaladze@yahoo.com](mailto:mmanjgaladze@yahoo.com)  
**MEETING URL:** <http://ice.ge/english.html>

**Meeting Description:**

2nd International Symposium of Linguists "Ibero-Caucasian Linguistics: Legacy and Perspectives"

**Organizers:**

Georgian Academy of sciences Tbilisi Arn. Chikobava Institute of Linguistics.  
([http://www.ice.ge/engl/history\\_e.html](http://www.ice.ge/engl/history_e.html))

**Co-participant organizers:**

Ministry of Education and Sciences of Georgia. Iv.Javakhishvili Tbilisi State University.

Tbilisi, 8, Ingorokva str. Tel: (+995) 999941; Fax; (+995) 934530  
E-mail: [symposium@ice.ge](mailto:symposium@ice.ge)

The symposium is dedicated to the 110th anniversary of outstanding Georgian linguist, academician Arnold Chikobava's birth.

The symposium will be held on 9th to 11th October, 2008.

**Themes of the symposium:**

Acad. Arnold Chikobava's legacy and the modern linguistics.  
General linguistics problems of description of language systems and sub-systems.  
Problem of kinship of the Ibero-Caucasian languages.  
Theory of an ergative construction.  
Aspects of normativeness of a literary language.  
Lexicology, lexicography, terminology.  
Socio-cultural, ethnolinguistical and psycholinguistical aspects of studying the languages.  
The modern methods and technologies of researching the Ibero-Caucasian languages.

**A round table:**

The future of the Ibero-Caucasian languages.  
Linguo-cultural portrait of the Caucasus and dialogue of cultures.  
The modern linguistics - the national languages and cultures in the context of globalization.

The working languages of the symposium are: Georgian, Russian, English. English versions must be added to Georgian and Russian thesis

**Linguistic Field(s):** General Linguistics

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**Books: Academic Writing Genre**

**TITLE:** Academic Writing and Genre  
**SUBTITLE:** A Systematic Analysis

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2008

**PUBLISHER:** Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd,

<http://www.continuumbooks.com>

**AUTHOR:** Ian Bruce

**HARDBACK:** ISBN: 0826498442 9780826498441

**Pages:** 208

**Price:** £75.00

**Abstract:**

The focus of this book is the use of genre-based approaches to teaching academic writing. Genre-based courses enable second language learners to integrate their linguistic, organisational and contextual knowledge in a variety of different tasks.

The book reviews pedagogical approaches to genre through English for Specific Purposes and Systemic Functional Linguistics to present a synthesis of the current research being undertaken in the field. From this theoretical base, Ian Bruce proposes a new model of genre-based approaches to academic writing, and analyses the ways in which this can be implemented in pedagogy and curriculum design.

'Academic Writing and Genre' is a cutting-edge monograph which will be essential reading for researchers in applied linguistics.

**Linguistic Field(s):** Applied Linguistics

**Written In:** English(eng)

**MAJOR SUPPORTERS**

Brill: <http://www.brill.nl>

Continuum International Publishing Group Ltd: <http://www.continuumbooks.com>

Edinburgh University Press: <http://www.eup.ed.ac.uk/>

Georgetown University Press: <http://www.press.georgetown.edu>

Hodder Arnold: <http://www.hoddereducation.co.uk>

John Benjamins: <http://www.benjamins.com/>

Lincom GmbH: <http://www.lincom.eu>

MIT Press: <http://mitpress.mit.edu/>

Mouton de Gruyter: <http://www.mouton-publishers.com>

Multilingual Matters: <http://www.multilingual-matters.com/>

Narr Francke Attempto Verlag GmbH + Co. KG, [www.narr.de](http://www.narr.de)

Oxford University Press: <http://www.oup.com/us>

Palgrave Macmillan: <http://www.palgrave.com>

Rodopi: <http://www.rodopi.nl/>

Springer: <http://www.springer.com>

#### **OTHER SUPPORTING PUBLISHERS**

Cascadilla Press: <http://www.cascadilla.com/>

International Pragmatics Assoc.: <http://www.ipra.be>

Linguistic Association of Finland: <http://www.ling.helsinki.fi/sky/>

Netherlands Graduate School of Linguistics / Landelijke - LOT,  
<http://www.lotpublications.nl/>

SIL International: <http://www.ethnologue.com/bookstore.asp>

St. Jerome Publishing Ltd: <http://www.stjerome.co.uk>

Utrecht institute of Linguistics: <http://www-uilots.let.uu.nl/>

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### **Review: Receptive Multilingualism**

**EDITORS:** ten Thije, Jan D.; Zeevaert, Ludger

**TITLE:** Receptive Multilingualism

**SUBTITLE:** Linguistic analyses, language policies and didactic concepts

**SERIES:** Hamburg Studies on Multilingualism (HSM)

**PUBLICATION YEAR:** 2007

**PUBLISHER:** John Benjamins Publishing Company

#### **REVIEWER:**

Çigdem Sagin-Simsek, Department of Foreign Language Education, METU, Ankara, Turkey

#### **SUMMARY**

This book presents a comprehensive analysis of receptive multilingualism in Europe. It not only scrutinizes a relatively neglected topic within the field of multilingualism but does so with the purpose of revealing new perspectives from different theoretical frameworks on the linguistic analyses of receptive multilingualism in Europe, it stimulates the readers, and sets the agenda for future research. Another significant contribution of the book is that, while principally focusing on receptive multilingualism, it helps the reader reconstruct the historical developments of various multilingual constellations in Europe.

The book is an edited collection of chapters consisting of four main parts:

Part I: Historical development of receptive multilingualism;

Part II: Receptive multilingualism in discourse;

Part III: Testing mutual understanding in receptive multilingual communication; and

Part IV: Determining the possibilities of reading comprehension in related languages.

Each chapter of these parts is a separate paper examining receptive multilingualism in a special context and from a different perspective. Notes and the list of references cited are given after each paper as is the case in such collections, while the name and subject indices are placed at the end of the book. This review will start with a chapter-by-

chapter concise description and will then offer a critical evaluation of the book as a whole.

Studies on receptive multilingualism have a long tradition going back to the early fifties. With Einar Haugen's seminal work entitled (in the revised English version) "Semi-communication: the language gap in Scandinavia" (Haugen, 1966), the phenomenon of receptive multilingualism was first introduced into the field with the term 'semi-communication'. Following that and using the term 'receptive multilingualism', multilingual communication between neighboring languages was of interest to many other researchers. To list some of them, communication among Scandinavians (Maurud, 1976; Zeevaert, 2004), Spanish and Portuguese (Jensen, 1989) and Slovakian and Czech (Budovicova, 1987) attracted attention. This book can be considered as a refreshing addition to the existing work on receptive multilingualism.

The introductory chapter by the editors clarifies the focus of the book by defining the concept of receptive multilingualism as "the language constellation in which interlocutors use their respective mother tongues while speaking to each other" (p.1). Specifying the three tacit assumptions that the volume aims to challenge in the field of multilingual communication research, the editors present the main line of arguments pursued by each chapter (p. 2):

1. Multilingualism is a social phenomenon deeply embedded in European language history.
2. Multilingual understanding does not necessarily require near-native language competency.
3. English as lingua franca is not the one and only solution for interlingual communication in Europe.

The editors, then, referring to the contributions in this volume briefly explain their position vis-à-vis these assumptions. To start with the first assumption, the fact that linguistic and cultural diversity is profoundly settled in the history of Europe has its reflections on the present linguistic situation and the related principles of European Union, which are declared by the European motto "unity in diversity". Considering the second assumption, the editors state that near-native language competency is no longer a precondition for successful multilingual communication to occur in various settings. Instead, the editors emphasize the necessity for the description of new oral and written competencies involving notions like meta-linguistic and intercultural understanding, action and institutional knowledge. As for the third assumption, lingua franca English, the editors highlight the fact that English is an important international language which, however, should not be regarded as the one and only solution for interlingual communication in Europe. On the contrary, they propose the method of receptive multilingualism as an efficient way for mutual comprehension depending on the typological distance of the languages involved, the language competencies of the participants, and the preconditions of the communication context. The editorial introduction ends with an outline of each chapter written by researchers from a wide spread of affiliations.

Part I, entitled "Historical development of receptive multilingualism", consists of two chapters. The first chapter in this part presents a comprehensible survey of the linguistic situation in northern Europe in the late Middle Ages and early Modern Times (Chapter 1: Receptive multilingualism in Northern Europe in the Middle ages: A description of a scenario, by Kurt Braunmüller. pp. 25-47). Braunmüller starts his article with the reproach that receptive multilingualism has not received sufficient attention as opposed to the other forms of active/productive bilingualism and it has still not been considered as a manifestation of bilingualism in its own right. Referring to the early manifestations of receptive multilingualism when giving the features that distinguish receptive

multilingualism and productive bi/multilingualism, he states that especially between genetically closely related languages (e.g. the relationship between Low German and the Scandinavian languages/dialects explained in this article) receptive multilingualism was then a kind of asymmetric communication restricted to face-to-face interaction. The linguistic forms played only a marginal role. Linguistic fluency or a comprehensive understanding of the addressee's language was neither necessary nor expected. It was more purpose-oriented and context or addressee-dependent. Perhaps most important of all, Braunmüller reminds us that at that time perfect command of a language was not something expected. However, more recently, due to the rise of nationalism, language and identity have become closely intertwined and receptive multilingualism has lost its status. Based on the evidence of the morphological form of the definite articles and periphrastic genitive constructions in Low German and the Scandinavian languages, Braunmüller concludes his article with two important remarks: 1) Nationalism put an end to receptive multilingualism which was an unmediated communication between genetically closely related languages and 2) Receptive multilingualism represents a starting point for SLA, especially for adults.

The second chapter in Part I is another historical example of receptive multilingualism (Chapter 2: Linguistic diversity in Habsburg Austria as a model for modern European language policy, by Rosita Rindler-Schjerve and Eva Vetter. pp. 49-70). The main argument of this paper is that the language policy of the nineteenth-century Habsburg Empire can be considered a promising example of multilingual management and planning since it shows a potential that projects into present-day multilingual Europe. The article starts by recalling one of the main articles (Art.1-3) of the Treaty Establishing a Constitution for Europe, that "the European Union shall respect its rich cultural and linguistic diversity, and shall ensure that Europe's cultural heritage is safeguarded and enhanced" (49) which produced the motto "unified in diversity". The writers then describe the Habsburg model of multilingualism in relation to the European Union. Unlike the developing linguistic homogenization taking place at that time, the Habsburg Empire had principles like "pluralist equality" and "democratic participation". Though there were some attempts at making German the language of the politically dominant group, it was never institutionalized over the state. The writers exemplify this fact, giving evidence from three specific domains of the empire: education, administration and the judiciary. The main contribution of the article comes with "the lessons to be learned". Regarding the success and failure of the language policy in the Habsburg Empire, the writers raise important issues which might be of use for democratic decision-making in the context of language policy and multilingualism in present day Europe. Although one should not draw an exact parallel between the Habsburg Empire and the EU, the principle of 'equality' and 'diversity' are what seem to be in common. The first lesson to be learned is that, contrary to the tendency towards "English only" within EU institutions, there is a need for a balanced linguistic policy which will encourage linguistic diversity in multilingual communication. The Habsburg Empire model can be conceived as a good historical case study which might give inspirations for new projects in language contact environments and for new solutions for presently existing conflicting scenarios.

Part II, "Receptive multilingualism in discourse", opens with Anne Ribbert and Jan D. ten Thije's article (Chapter 3: Receptive multilingualism in Dutch-German intercultural team cooperation. pp. 73-101). The article aims to illustrate the occurrence of receptive multilingualism in Dutch-German team cooperation as a form of institutional communication. Unlike the first two articles focusing on the genetically closely related Scandinavian languages, this paper deals with Dutch-German as less close languages. The combination of the languages is not only interesting for their being genetically less close languages, but also because receptive multilingualism is rare between the Dutch and the German. In cases where they come into contact, either one of the interlocutors adapts the language of the other, or English is used as a lingua franca. The chapter first reviews the factors supporting the occurrences of receptive multilingualism in relation to

House and Rehbein's (2004: 3) parameters of multilingual communication, namely factors referring to social and linguistic relations between nation states, the institutional constellations within nation states and factors related to the perspectives of the individual interactants. Receptive multilingualism, following these factors is supposed to occur in situations where the two languages and their speakers have an equal socio-political status (House and Rehbein, 2004), when the speakers have enough experience with other cultures, when the speakers' perception of the actual linguistic distance is not too far - the notion 'psychotypology', and when speakers are familiar with the phenomenon of receptive multilingualism itself in order to adequately use it (Braunmüller and Zeevaert, 2001). As for the analyses, the writers provide representative extracts from discourse between a Dutch and a German teacher working at the Goethe-Institute Amsterdam. The findings reveal the importance of institutionalized key words as special means to ensure mutual understanding. This section is the most remarkable section of this chapter. The authors, referring to Koole and ten Thije's (1994) characterization of institutional key words, analyze the institutional discourse. In line with their descriptions, it becomes noticeable that keywords receive an institution-specific meaning that helps the interlocutors to activate common institutional knowledge and to establish mutual understanding. Last but not least, the authors explain how these key words contribute to the understanding of intercultural differences by introducing Rehbein's (2006) concept of cultural apparatus.

The second chapter in Part II, authored by Ludger Zeevaert, provides a theoretical subsumption of the term receptive multilingualism in connection with the terms semi-communication and intercomprehension (Chapter 4: Receptive multilingualism and inter-Scandinavian semi-communication. pp. 103-135). Defining receptive multilingualism as a form of communication where "both interlocutors speak their own language and at the same time are able to understand the language of their counterpart" (104), the author emphasizes the active role of the hearer. That is, similar to Rehbein's view of the hearer within the theory of Functional Pragmatics (2006), and referring to Maturana (1998), the author explains how information is created with the contribution of the hearer. Utilizing examples taken from interscandinavian semi-communication, as many others in the volume, the article calls attention to the role of a common background of the interlocutors, like Ribbert and ten Thije did in the previous chapter. This study is important due to two reasons: first, because it considers the hearer as the key person in receptive multilingual communication; and second, it presents receptive multilingualism in Scandinavia as an alternative to lingua franca communication in the European Union which consists of countries sharing a common cultural background.

Chapter 5 outlines the Swiss model of multilingualism and is titled "Receptive multilingualism in Switzerland and the case of Biel/Bienne" (by Iwar Werlen. Pp. 137-157). The article recaps four models of interlingual communication in Switzerland: 1) the Swiss model in which every speaker speaks their own language and expects the others to understand them, 2) the Biel/Bienne model, the bilingual model, 3) the default model, a monolingual model in which the language of the territory is spoken by everyone, and 4) lingua franca English. Particularly, the article investigates how the choice of language in conversations varies in the officially bilingual (German-French) cities of Biel/Bienne and Fribourg/Freiburg where the default language is French. The results reveal that in Biel/Bienne the addresser's language leads to an accommodation of the addressee, while in Fribourg/Freiburg when a person is addressed in German the conversation continues in a receptive multilingual mode unless the addresser switches to French. The article is important for two reasons: 1) it presents receptive multilingualism as a democratic option for multilingual societies, and 2) it provides an excellent example for how receptive multilingualism is officially fostered.

In contradiction to the previous chapter, in chapter 6 Georges Lüdi proclaims that the Swiss model does not work as successfully as it is claimed (Chapter 6: The Swiss model of plurilingual communication. pp. 159-178). Giving examples of authentic cross-

linguistic communication at work in Switzerland, the author instead proposes that in face-to-face interactions speakers profit from all the communicative resources they share. Based on the data obtained in a monolingual French-speaking and a monolingual German-speaking bank, the article shows that rather than choosing the Swiss model or the lingua franca English, many other plurilingual communication techniques are employed. In particular, the observed techniques were: accommodating to the other language when a communicative problem appears, language mixing, asking linguistically more skilled people to translate or briefly summarize, or choosing the default (L1) in emotionally important moments.

Another article that analyzes receptive multilingualism in business communication is authored by Bettina Dresemann (Chapter 7: Receptive multilingualism in business discourses. pp. 179-193). Though Zeevaert (in this volume) along with many other studies blame linguistic deficits or different cultural backgrounds for the communicative problems that arise in intercultural communication, the author (based on Loss, 1999) in line with the argumentation of Lüdi (Chapter 6 in this volume) argues that, in spite of the fact that the participants may lack linguistic and cultural knowledge of the other party, for successful communication to occur in multilingual business discourses interlocutors create a common ground for their interactions by using cues and combine them with other forms of knowledge, such a pragmatic knowledge, general knowledge or professional knowledge to interpret the situation.

The last chapter investigating receptive multilingualism in discourse considers the phenomenon of English as a lingua franca, which is perceived as the leading option for communication in multilingual discourses (Chapter 8: Speaker stances in native and non-native English conversation: I + verb constructions, by Nicole Baumgarten and Juliane House. pp. 195-214). The article examines subjectivity in discourse of native and non-native speakers of English in L1 and English as the lingua franca (ELF) with respect to the use of how I + verb constructions such as "I think", "I don't know", "I mean". It reports discrepancies in terms of linguistic subjectivity between these three groups. This paper is thought-provoking and stimulating, since the findings related to ELF speakers provide further evidence for arguments against lingua franca communication. The second important contribution of the article comes with the 'let-it-pass' strategy that is introduced as a characteristic feature of ELF talk. The term, referring to House (1999 and 2002), is described as to the participants' tendency to ignore grammatically incorrect or incomprehensible utterances and focus more on the content of information for the sake of successful communication.

Part III, entitled "Testing mutual understanding in receptive multilingual communication", has two contributions examining the mutual intelligibility of interscandinavian communication. The first article (Chapter 9: Understanding differences in inter-Scandinavian language understanding, by Gerke Doetjes. pp. 217-230) is an overview of the studies conducted on inter-Scandinavian language understanding. Doetjes argues that the studies included in the overview are far behind in presenting how well Scandinavians understand each other's language, due to the fact that the results are affected by the method chosen to test mutual intelligibility. The article investigates language understanding based on six different test types: 1) open questions, 2) T/F questions, 3) multiple choice questions, 4) word translation, 5) summary, and 6) short summary. The studies cited by Doetjes show that, despite the claim that within the inter-Scandinavian context Danish, Norwegian and Swedish are mutually intelligible languages, Norwegians are the most capable of successfully mastering inter-Scandinavian communication. Danes and Swedes, on the other hand, reveal problems in understanding each other.

A second chapter testing mutual understanding among the speakers of Scandinavian languages is authored by Lars-Olof Delsing (Chapter 10: Scandinavian

intercomprehension today. pp. 231-246). In particular, the study tests the degree of intelligibility in Danish, Norwegian, Swedish and English via the methods of open questions and translations. The primary intention of the study is to compare the results with those of Maurud (1976), because there have been substantial changes concerning language choice and language policy in Scandinavian countries since the 1970s. The results obtained from 1200 pupils are quite similar to those of Doetjes (in this volume) and Maurud (1976), in that the Norwegians seem to understand the neighboring languages better than the Swedes and the Danes, and the Danes are better than the Swedes.

The last part of the book, Part IV, is devoted to "Determining the possibilities of reading comprehension in related languages". The first chapter of this part (Chapter 11: Interlingual text comprehension, by René van Bezooijen and Charlotte Gooskens. pp. 249-264) assesses the relative intelligibility of written Frisian and Afrikaans for speakers of Dutch considering two factors: attitudes towards the languages and the linguistic distance. The results obtained from 20 native Dutch language students show that written Frisian is more difficult for them than Afrikaans. Moreover, the authors report that this result has no significant correlation to the attitudes developed towards these languages on an individual level. That the article measures linguistic distance between the languages involved predominantly on account of the number of cognates and non-cognates is a very important contribution. The article's contribution becomes even more appealing with the finding that rather than the number of cognates, the number of non-cognates plays a prominent role in fostering the degree of understanding.

As do the other papers in this part, Madeline Lutjeharms discusses reading comprehension in related languages (Chapter 12: Processing levels in foreign-language reading. pp. 265-284). The author aims to present an overview of studies on reading in a foreign language, particularly when the languages are related. Considering the reading process as a form of information processing, the article provides explanations of processing levels of the reading process starting with eye movements, and moving to word recognition and sentence processing. Although the article does not examine reading comprehension in a specific receptive multilingual discourse, it is noteworthy in that it does not only highlight the importance of the linguistic distance in reading L2 texts, as in the other papers in the volume, but also the remoteness of the linguistic features of the languages involved.

The following chapter, authored by Robert Möller (Chapter 13: A computer-based exploration of the lexical possibilities of intercomprehension. pp. 285-305), is based on the assumption that cognate words provide an excellent basis to develop receptive competence between languages. Möller in this article explores the extent of the Dutch and German cognates by means of a computer program. The author presents the Levenshtein algorithm so as to provide a reliable measure of lexical accessibility. The findings propose that of the 5000 common Dutch words 75% are accessible for German readers, which provides enough evidence to support Dutch- German receptive multilingualism (the same phenomenon is also discussed by Ribbert and ten Thije in this volume). This is an informative and inspiring chapter which might encourage further research on identification of recognizable cognates and consequently on receptive competencies between other languages.

The last chapter of the book is relatively different from the rest as it focuses on acquisition of an L3 (Chapter 14: How can DafnE and EuroComGerm contribute to the concept of receptive multilingualism, by Britta Hufeisen and Nicole Marx. pp. 307-321). This article, within the theoretical framework of two models, Meißner's Spontaneous Learner Grammar and Hufeisen's Factor model, aims to help students identify the relevant knowledge of their previously known languages to gain receptive competencies in learning a new language. The article draws a distinction between acquisition of an L2

and an L3 with the claim that in most European countries English is taught as the first foreign language and when a person decides to learn another European language like German or French, he is already equipped with some knowledge of a foreign language which eases his learning process of the new language. Providing results from two researches, DafnE and EuroComGerm, the authors suggest that in order to promote receptive multilingualism among EU citizens, learners of a new language (L3) should be trained to link and use their knowledge of a related, formerly learned language (L2).

## **EVALUATION**

"Receptive Multilingualism" is a stimulating, novel and enjoyable book that brings together articles which examine multilingualism from a newer perspective. In this respect, the volume will indisputably inspire further research in this field. Despite the fact that the volume is a collection of articles from diverse theoretical frameworks, there are some issues raised in almost all articles. To start with the European motto unity in diversity is referred to by many articles. The motto is used to describe the ideal linguistic situation in Europe, emphasizing the importance of multilingual communication (with the characterization of House & Rehbein, 2004) and multilingual education. The second issue discussed in all articles is English as a lingua franca (ELF). Although House (2003) regards ELF as a language for communication, a useful communicative tool especially in international encounters rather than as a threat to national languages and multilingualism, many articles in the volume consider ELF as a serious reason for receptive multilingualism losing its status in European countries. Last but not least, the volume is thought-provoking in that it urges some political and educational decisions to be taken to support receptive multilingualism which is presented as 1) a reasonable preference of multilingual communication, and 2) an opportunity to avoid linguistic discrimination (Zeevaert, in this volume).

The line of attack in which the chapters are organized in the volume helps the reader to pursue the topics and connect between the chapters and discussions smoothly. The standard of the chapters are noticeably high. Even though the editors limited the context of receptive multilingualism to Europe, it would be very interesting to learn about receptive multilingualism in other language contact areas such as in Africa or in Asia in another volume. All in all, I highly recommend the volume for those interested in multilingual communication.

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#### **ABOUT THE REVIEWER**

Dr. Çigdem Sagin-Simsek is a lecturer teaching various linguistics and ELT courses at Middle East Technical University, Ankara, Turkey. Her research interests include second and third language acquisition, multilingualism and interlingual communication.

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## **Call for papers: 2nd International Symposium of Linguists**

**FULL TITLE:** 2nd International Symposium of Linguists

**DATE:** 09 October 2008 to 11 October 2008

**LOCATION:** Tbilisi, Georgia

**CONTACT PERSON:** Mariam Manjgaladze

**MEETING EMAIL:** [mmanjgaladze@yahoo.com](mailto:mmanjgaladze@yahoo.com)

**WEB SITE:** <http://ice.ge/english.html>

**Call Deadline:** 05 June 2008

#### **Meeting Description:**

2nd International Symposium of Linguists 'Ibero-Caucasian Linguistics: Legacy and Perspectives'

#### **Call for Papers**

The working languages of the symposium are: Georgian, Russian, English. English versions must be added to Georgian and Russian thesis.

The size of the thesis for the symposium must not be more than 2 printed pages (500 words). Technical conditions: an editor of the text - Microsoft Word; Georgian type-face - Acadnux; English and Russian fonts - Times New Roman; format- A4; size of type - 11. In the case of using special symbols, please send the relevant type-face. Pages are not

numbered; examples - in italics, underline - bold, indication to a source - [Chikobava, 1941, 23]; personal identity of an author - upper left corner.

The last term of receiving thesis is 5th June, 2008. Please, send your thesis to this address: [symposium@ice.ge](mailto:symposium@ice.ge)

**Time Limit:**

Plenary meeting report - 25 minutes.  
Sectional meeting report - 15 minutes.  
Information - 7 minutes.  
Discussion - 5-7 minutes.

Cultural activities (excursions in Old Tbilisi and Mtskheta) are planned for participants.

An organizational committee will make a decision on taking the thesis in the symposium programme. You will be informed on accepting your thesis in written form not later than 30th June, 2008. An organizational committee will provide you with visa paperwork.

A registration fee is appointed for preparing materials of the symposium:  
for foreigners - 50 euro;  
for participants from CIS - 20 euro;  
for Georgian researchers - 30 laries.  
Foreign participants of the symposium will pay the registration fee after arriving.

A person interested in participating, please fill out the form on our website.

Please, for additional information connect to:  
Mariam Manjgaladze: [maia@ice.ge](mailto:maia@ice.ge) or [mmanjgaladze@vahoo.com](mailto:mmanjgaladze@vahoo.com).  
Tel: +995 99 99 41, 899 105 140;  
Konstantine Kakitadze: [kote@ice.ge](mailto:kote@ice.ge) or [kakita@posta.ge](mailto:kakita@posta.ge)  
Tel: +995 93 46 78; 895 333 735.

**Linguistic Field(s):** General Linguistics

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## **Call for papers: Workshop on describing medical web resources**

**FULL TITLE:** 1st Int. Workshop on Describing Medical Web Resources

**SHORT TITLE:** DrMED@MIE 2008

**DATE:** 25 May 2008 to 28 May 2008

**LOCATION:** Goteborg, Sweden

**CONTACT PERSON:** Vangelis Karkaletsis

**MEETING EMAIL:** [vangelis@iit.demokritos.gr](mailto:vangelis@iit.demokritos.gr)

**WEB SITE:** <http://www.medieq.org/drmed2008/>

**Call Deadline:** 11 April 2008

**Meeting Description:**

The number of health information web resources is increasing day by day. The content of these resources is very variable and difficult to assess. Furthermore, the number of people searching for health-related information is also increasing. The development of tools to support the process of describing the content of medical web resources with

meta-data that facilitate their retrieval, and with quality labels by certified authorities, is crucial for the delivery of content of better quality to health information consumers.

The DRMed workshop at MIE 2008 aims at providing a focused international forum for researchers, developers and labeling organizations to present the scope of the problem, discuss the potential of semantic web technologies and outline promising future research directions.

### **Call for Papers**

The workshop is organized as part of the 21st International Congress of the European Federation for Medical Informatics (MIE-2008), May 25-28, 2008, Goteborg Sweden

#### **Topics of interest include, but are not limited to:**

- Knowledge representation and management technologies (e.g. OWL, RDF, Annotation Schemas, etc.) that enable the creation of machine-processable descriptions of medical web resources, either by experts or simple users.
- Challenges related to content collection and information extraction techniques that allow the retrieval of unclassified/unlabeled web resources or the continuous monitoring of already classified/labeled ones.
- Applications of Medical Web Content Accreditation, utilizing Semantic Web technologies/tools.

#### **Important Dates:**

Submissions due: April 11, 2008

Notification of Acceptance: April 23, 2008

Final Articles due: May 8, 2008

Early Bird Registration due: March 30, 2008

Workshop: to be announced

#### **Participation and Paper Submission:**

The language of the conference will be English and we invite research papers, work-in-progress papers, and position papers. All submissions will be reviewed by an international programme committee.

Submissions should follow the style described in the DrMED@MIE 2008 Author Guidelines and be up to 6 pages in length, including title, author, names, abstract, and body.

DrMED@MIE 2008 Author Guidelines can be found here:

<http://www.medicq.org/drmed2008/guidelines>

Papers have to be submitted via email at: [drmed2008@iit.demokritos.gr](mailto:drmed2008@iit.demokritos.gr)

Workshop proceedings will be prepared in paper and on CD-ROM. Each participant will receive a hardcopy of DrMED 2008 proceedings. Workshop authors will maintain the copyrights of their papers, but will be required to sign a form allowing the local organizers to include their paper in the workshop's proceedings. The possibility of a journal special issue based on the workshop proceedings will be discussed during the workshop.

#### **Registration:**

Workshop attendants are required to register to the main conference and to the workshop. At least one author of each accepted workshop paper is required to register by the camera-ready submission deadline.

Registration will be done through the MIE 2008 registration site,  
<http://www.mie2008.org/>

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Mayer M.A., Web Medica Acreditada, Spain  
Gonzales D.V., Agency for Quality in Medicine, Germany  
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For updated list of Programme Committee Members, visit the DRMED@MIE 2008 Web Site (<http://www.medieq.org/drmed2008/>)

**Linguistic Field(s):** Computational Linguistics; Semantics; Text/Corpus Linguistics

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